

## 2008 Partner V – Conference Agenda

Wednesday, August 6, 2008

1:00 PM– 3:00 PM

Opening Plenary

Crystal Ballroom

### ***“Building Bridges, Building Hope: Working Together to Strengthen Farming and Rural Communities.”***

**Presiding:** Sherie Hinton Henry, Associate Assistant Secretary for Civil Rights, OASCR, Washington, DC

**Posting of the Colors:** DC Army National Color Guard, Washington, DC

**National Anthem:** Deborah S. Yeadon, Agricultural Research Service, Washington, DC

**Moment of Remembrance:** Audience

**Welcome:** Ross Racine, Executive Director, Intertribal Agriculture Council, Montana

**Roll Call of the States:** Ron Brown, Eastern Regional Outreach Specialist, Risk Management Agency, North Carolina

**Introduction of Guests:** Sherie Hinton Henry, Associate Assistant Secretary for Civil Rights, Washington, DC

**Greetings:** Carl-Martin Ruiz, Director, Office of Outreach and Diversity, Washington, DC

**Musical Performance:** James Mobley, Staff Accountant, Forest Service, Washington, DC

**Introduction of the Chair of the Partners Planning Committee and of the Assistant Secretary for Civil Rights:** Annabelle Romero, Deputy Assistant Secretary for Civil Rights, Washington, DC

**Partners Report:** Shirley Sherrod, Chair, USDA/CBO Partners Planning Committee, and Director, Georgia Field Office, Federation of Southern Cooperatives/Land Assistance Fund, Georgia

**Remarks and Introduction of Speaker:** Margo M. McKay, Assistant Secretary for Civil Rights, Washington, DC

**Keynote Address:** The Honorable Ed Schafer, Secretary of Agriculture, Washington, DC

**Musical Performance:** Rudy Arredondo, President, HOLA/National Latino Farmers and Ranchers Trade Association, Washington, DC

**Orientation to Partners V:** Lorette Picciano, Executive Director, Rural Coalition/Coalición Rural, and Gladys Gary Vaughn, Director, Office of Outreach Washington, DC

Break

Crystal Foyer

<b>3:15 PM– 5:30 PM</b>	<b>Second Plenary</b>	<b>Crystal Ballroom</b>
<p><b><i>The 2008 Farm Bill</i></b>  During this two-part Plenary, participants will hear a briefing on the 2008 Farm Bill and its implementation, engage in dialogue.</p> <p><b>Presiding:</b> Savonala Horne, Executive Director, North Carolina Association of Black Lawyers Land Loss Prevention Project, North Carolina</p> <p><b>The 2008 Farm Bill Implementation: A Briefing:</b> Lowell Randel, Office of Congressional Relations, Washington, DC</p> <p><b>USDA/Partners Dialogue on the 2008 Farm Bill</b>  <b>Presenters:</b>  <b>USDA Representative:</b> Lowell Randel, Office of Congressional Relations  <b>CBO Representatives:</b> Ross Racine, Executive Director, Intertribal Agriculture Council, Montana; Quinton Robinson, Congressional Liaison, Washington, DC; and Lorette Picciano, Executive Director, Rural Coalition/Coalición Rural, Washington, DC</p>		
<b>4:00 PM– 6:00 PM</b>	<b>Special Session</b>	<b>Harrison/Jackson</b>
<p><b>Emerging Market Opportunities for Small-Scale Producers</b>  <b>Moderator:</b> James Barham, AMS, Washington, DC  <b>Presenters:</b>  Erik Brown, Produce Buyer, Whole Foods Mid-Atlantic Region, Maryland  Joel Fleischman, Chef, Washington County Hospital, Maryland  Roy Cargiulo, Sales Manager, Keany Produce Company, Maryland  Ron McCormick, Wal-Mart Regional Produce Buyer, Arkansas</p>		
<b>6:30 PM</b>	<b>Dinner</b>	<b>Crystal Ballroom</b>
<b>7:30 PM</b>	<b>CBO Partners Meeting</b>	<b>Harrison/Jackson</b>
<b>Discussion of Structure Proposals</b>		